# **Ross Complex Superfund Site**

Fact Sheet No. 9

Bonneville POWER ADMINISTRATION

M A Y 1 9 9 3

## Ross Environmental Studies Complete

More than two years of extensive environmental studies at the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Ross Complex in Vancouver, Washington are now complete.

The studies were done to determine whether and to what extent the water and soil at the Complex might have been contaminated over the years.

The studies were broken into two parts. Operable Unit A (Unit A) addressed surface soil contamination and Operable Unit B (Unit B) looked at subsurface soil contamination and groundwater conditions.

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) assisted BPA in conducting these studies

BPA has been keeping the community appraised of progress in these studies through a series of fact sheets. This fact sheet presents what was found during the studies and describes what happens next.

# Treatment Plan for Surface Soils Approved

Only limited surface soil contamination was found in Unit A. BPA contractors removed some of the limited

soil contamination and deposited it in an approved disposal site. Last summer, BPA invited your comments on a proposed plan to remove and/or treat remaining contaminated soil.

BPA, EPA and Ecology reviewed all the public comments and agreed on what needs to be done with the

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remaining soil contamination.
Under this agreement, BPA
plans to remove contaminated
soil from two locations, the Ross
Substation and Capacitor Test
Lab, and to treat on-site, surface
soils from the Wood Pole
Storage Yard on the complex
using bioremediation.

These are the same actions we presented to you in the Proposed Plan for Unit A which was discussed at the public meeting last fall.

The plan is now reflected in a Record of Decision (ROD) that is available for your review in the Vancouver Regional Library's Public Information Repository. The address is 1007 East Mill Plain Boulevard in Vancouver.

#### Groundwater Not Threatened

Unit B addresses groundwater. It was concern for groundwater and the potential threat to regional drinking water supplies that originally put the Ross Complex on the Superfund list.

We found no significant source of potential groundwater contamination in analyzing surface soils.

In addition, now, after installing 32 groundwater monitoring wells and conducting sampling and analysis of the wells for nearly two years, we have found that the Complex does not represent a threat to neighboring drinking water supplies.

# Next Public Meeting in July

The major investigative work at the Ross Complex is now

If you have any questions, or would like a more detailed briefing on the status of the Superfund Investigation, or a copy of the Record of Decision for Unit A, please call Tony Morrell, Ross Superfund Project Manager at (206) 418-2884 or David Dunahay, Ross Complex Site Manager (206) 418-2380 or call toll free at (800) 622-4519.



done. BPA, EPA and the State of Washington are developing a proposed plan of action for Operable Unit B. When this proposed plan is complete, we will ask for your comments on it. We expect this review to occur this summer. It will include a public meeting to review the proposed plan, which we will hold at the Ross Complex.

Extensive documentation of Unit B's groundwater investigation, including the specific findings, are available for review at the Vancouver Regional Library.

As we get closer to the anticipated public meeting, you will receive written notice with the exact date, time and location of the meeting. Along with the meeting notice, you will receive a Proposed Plan outlining those specific actions planned to be taken in response to Unit B findings.

Thank you for helping us develop a plan to manage the clean up at the Ross Complex. Your patience is appreciated. We now are more than half-way through the Federal Superfund Process (see graphic at right). We look forward to discussing further plans with you at the next public meeting and ultimately bringing this process to a close.

If you have any questions, or would like a more detailed briefing on the status of the Superfund Investigation, or a copy of the Record of Decision for Unit A, please call Tony Morrell, Ross Superfund Project Manager at (206) 418-2884 or David Dunahay, Ross Complex Site Manager (206) 418-2380 or call BPA's Public Involvement Office toll free at (800) 622-4519.

## THE FEDERAL SUPERFUND PROCESS

